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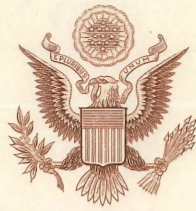


Air Mail

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Mr. Frederick C. Loops
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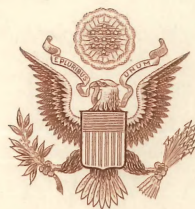
UNITED STATES ARMY

Sept. 23, 1946

Hija, Joe. -

Don't know why our letters get further and further apart! - They shouldn't, you know! Only takes a few minutes to sit down & whip one out, once you make up your mind to it! - at least that's what I keep telling myself. - Only trouble is, I just never seem to make myself reconciled to that point. - Instead, each day goes by - and all ~~is~~ that is done about it is giving birth to the eventually monotonous phrase "I ought to write Joe today!" - So - - - - - Fooling - all concerned - and me mostly - I'm damn near there with this first page - and I'm getting excited already! - Look! - I'm actually writing you!

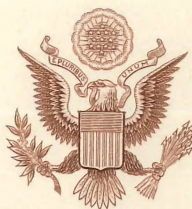
Marian & I are about as nuts as any two people you've ever known - never settling down to a schedule - or having a real reason ~~for~~ for doing anything - except the one we deem most important - to wit: "the urge"! - Perhaps not a very sane way of running an orthodox



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Kosher life - but one we find extremely interesting and full of fun - at least while we are in the position to live it that way. - We are still so nuts about one another that we don't realize what we are doing anyway - so why not take advantage of what we have?

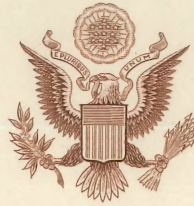
Life in Kearney remains about the same. - The base is still on a small scale - awaiting its supposed increase that's to take place in October or November - meanwhile fending off occasional rumors of our closing down all the way! - I got another airplane the other day to add to my "fleet" and feel just about as proud as an old mother hen must - when she hears the eggs starting to crack under her - or isn't that the way it's done? Can't help but contrast things to last year tho when I was hopping from coast to coast - looking in on D. C. every other week or so. ~~Earlier~~ The most I've been away from here in months - by air - is Omaha or K.C. occasionally.



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It's just as well, tho., - for the "home" situation has different aspects this year! - and I'm glad I'm not away most of the time. -

Currently I'm fighting the age old fight I referred to in my last letter. - On Friday - last - the choice of making another decision for the Army broke again - Three choices; ① to continue as I elected last January and get out from 30 days to Dec. - ② stay in 2 more years, + ③ to stay indefinitely. - a really hard selection - for I feel anything 'cept what I am, will mean overseas again P.D.Q. - and out of being better off financially with what I ^{will} managed to save - I won't be any better off in so far as having to start from scratch on the outside. - And at least 2 years older. - Why do you civilians have to have everything in such an uproar just now? - Schools are so crowded, that angle is even doubtful! Sometimes I kid myself into thinking maybe overseas won't be so bad - and Maria could eventually be with me - but then I'm usually thinking in terms of Europe. - Then I remember various



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islands that we've acquired and even think of lots of soldiers currently residing in Japan + China! - Brr --- ! a very incoherent letter - but so are my thoughts at present! - We have until Oct. 8th to decide - so if you will - one more lecture, please - but not too much from a Banker's point of view!

And now - something we've been wondering about and half way waiting for clarification - what about this "pooch" you've been referring to? We've been wanting an Irish setter pup - but felt it isn't feasible until we at least slow down in our Nomad life when we won't have to find hotels + stuff that will take dogs! - It's bad enough finding ~~one~~ places that will take soldiers! - Not quite that bad - but you can sure tell the pendulum of public opinion ~~is~~ has already swung quite away - from the Army! -

Gonna stop now - without another page. - Tell us about Daddy's true condition - the folks in general - D.C. - Jobs on the outside - and what you want for a birthday present! - And oh yes - how are you? - Maria says thanks for her card! -

Love
Joe + Josephine